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April 16, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket No. 98N-1038, Irradiation in the Production, Processing and Handling of Food

To Whom it May Concern:

I support the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding labeling of irradiated foods: "any foods or any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation should be labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the international symbol. If food is unpackaged this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale."

I believe the terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" should be retained. The word "pasteurization" is misleading because it is an entirely different process. I recognize the radura as information regarding a material fact of food processing. This disclosure information both label and radura should not be allowed to expire at any time in the future. The symbol should be clearly understandable at the point of purchase for everyone. If there is no label, consumers will be misled into believing the food has not been irradiated.

Please place comments received on the Internet so that the public can be informed about who is participating in this comment process.

Sincerely,

Sandi Peaslee

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Peaslee



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